

"A method of processing data"

A method of processing two data words to provide a new data word in a processor, as well as a processor to perform such a method, comprising an arithmetic logic unit, a plurality of registers and access to memory characterised in that the method comprises, not necessarily in this order, the steps of using the ALU to perform an operation on the data words to form another data word and performing a switching operation on one of the data words. Both of the above steps are completed by executing a single instruction. The instruction may be completed in one clock cycle thereby improving the performance of the processor. Such switching operations may be performed by using either hard wiring techniques or logic gate circuitry.